

Message Text

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11
ACTION EA-09

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AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
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SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN INTERVIEW WITH ADAM MALIK

1. EXCERPTS OF AN INTERVIEW WITH ADAM MALIK WHICH APPEARED
IN THE MELBOURNE HERALD SEPTEMBER 21 FOLLOW:

Q: WHAT ARE LIKELY TO BE THE MAIN BENEFITS OF MR. FRASER'S
VISIT?

A: THIS IS HIS FIRST VISIT HERE AND, AS YOU KNOW, HE HAS
STRESSED VERY STRONGLY HIS WISH TO COME TO INDONESIA AND
THE OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES TO STRENGTHEN AUSTRALIA'S RELA-
TIONS WITH THESE COUNTRIES. SECOND, OF COURSE, HE WOULD
LIKE TO MAKE ACQUAINTANCE WITH PRESIDENT SOEHARTO. AS YOU
KNOW, PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCES ARE SOMETIMES MORE FRUITFUL
THAN OFFICIAL ONES. THIS IS THE SORT OF RELATIONSHIP WE
HAD WITH MR. WHITLAM IN THE PAST. WE CALL IT QTE BATIK
DIPLOMACY. END QTE THIRDLY, I THINK MR. FRASER WOULD LIKE
TO CLARIFY WHAT IS MISUNDERSTOOD BETWEEN INDONESIA AND
AUSTRALIA. THERE ARE TWO PROBLEMS. THE PEKING STORY AND
CLARIFICATION OF THE POSITION IN EAST TIMOR AFTER ITS
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FORMAL INTEGRATION INTO INDONESIA ON JULY 17. THE OTHER

POINT, OF COURSE, MIGHT BE TO CLARIFY AUSTRALIA'S POSITION IN REGARDS TO THE INDIAN OCEAN. THESE ARE THE MOST DELICATE POINTS.

Q: WHAT IS THE POSITION ON TIMOR? WILL AUSTRALIA MAKE ANY FORMAL STATEMENT OF RECOGNITION?

A: I THINK THAT IS NOT NECESSARY. WE DID NOT INSIST ON THAT BECAUSE WE KNOW THE DIFFICULTIES IN AUSTRALIA. THAT IS WHY WHEN THEY OFFERED TO HELP TIMOR, WE GAVE THEM TWO WAYS. IF YOU WANT TO GIVE OPENLY, YOU CAN SEND IT THROUGH THE MINISTRY. IF NOT, THROUGH THE RED CROSS.

Q: BY COMING HERE AT THIS TIME, MR. FRASER TACITLY ACCEPTS WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

A: I AM SURE, BECAUSE THAT IS ALREADY THE REALITY.

Q: ON TIMOR, DO YOU THINK THE DAMAGE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND INDONESIA HAS NOW BEEN REPAIRED?

A: I DID NOT SAY DAMAGE BUT MISUNDERSTANDING. WE MUST CLEAR THAT. I AM SURE, AFTER MR. FRASER'S VISIT, IT WILL BE CLEARED. YOU REMEMBER DURING THE SECOND VISIT OF PEACOCK, EVEN PEACOCK EXPLAINED THE DIFFICULTY THERE. QTE MY POSITION IN THE PARLIAMENT IS LIKE THIS AND MAYBE, MR. MALIK, YOU FEEL UNHAPPY BUT I MUST WAIT. BUT IN THE LONG RUN WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS THE ONLY WAY FOR INDONESIA. END QTE THAT'S WHY, I AM SURE, (WE SHOULD) GIVE THEM TIME. (SMILES).

Q: ANOTHER AREA OF DIFFICULTY BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND INDONESIA CONCERNED MR. FRASER'S REPORTED REMARKS IN PEKING ABOUT THIS COUNTRY'S LEADERSHIP. HAD THIS MATTER BEEN SETTLED?

A: MR. WOOLCOTT, YOU REMEMBER, CONVEYED A LETTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT SOEHARTO ON THAT MATTER. THE LETTER CLARIFIED THINGS FOR PRESIDENT SOEHARTO. BUT IN THIS VISIT, IF THEY SEE EACH OTHER, IF THEY TALK TO-

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GETHER, OF COURSE THEY WILL TOUCH ON THIS QUESTION AND MR. FRASER CAN REPEAT HIS CLARIFICATION.

Q: ANOTHER AREA OF DIFFERENCE CONCERNS THE GREAT POWER BUILD UP IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. WHAT IS INDONESIA'S ATTITUDE ON THIS MATTER?

A: THERE ARE TWO THEORIES. BOTH SIDES (INDONESIA AND

AUSTRALIA) WOULD LIKE THERE TO BE NO WAR THERE. SO THERE ARE TWO POSSIBILITIES. TO HAVE THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF POWER OR THE MINIMUM. INDONESIA AND SOME OTHER COUNTRIES - WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE MINIMUM BECAUSE IF YOU HAVE THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF COMPETITION THERE IS LESS DANGER. IF YOU SAY THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION ON THIS QUESTION, I DO NOT SEE IT AS A DIFFERENCE. IT IS A DIFFERENT TACTIC BUT THE SAME AIR: TO PREVENT WAR. IF YOU ASK MR. PEACOCK OR MR. FRASER, QTE WHY DO YOU SUPPORT THIS? END QTE THEY WILL SAY, QTE TO PREVENT WAR. WE NEED BALANCE. END QTE AND THEN YOU MUST ASK AGAIN, QTE WHAT SORT OF BALANCE? THE MAXIMUM OR THE MINIMUM? END QTE

Q: MR. PEACOCK AND MR. FRASER APPEAR TO BE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SOVIET BUILD-UP BUT INDONESIA DOES NOT SHARE THIS VIEW?

A: YOU MENTION THE SOVIET BUILD-UP. WHO CAN COMPETE WITH THEM? ONLY THE AMERICANS. THAT'S WHY THE AMERICANS WILL AUTOMATICALLY DO THEIR BEST - FOR THEIR OWN INTEREST. THAT IS WHY IT IS BETTER THAT WE DON'T GO TO THE MAXIMUM. IT'S BETTER IF WE SAY, QTE DON'T DO IT TOO MUCH. END QTE LIKE AUSTRALIA, WE CANNOT STOP THEM.

Q: AUSTRALIA CANNOT STOP THEM BUT PERHAPS AUSTRALIA ENCOURAGES AMERICA TO MATCH THEM?

A: WHETHER YOU ENCOURAGE THEM OR NOT, THE AMERICANS WILL DO IT FOR THEMSELVES. DON'T FORGET THAT (LAUGHS) BECAUSE IT IS IN AMERICA'S INTERESTS, THEY WILL DO IT ANYWAY.

2. FULL TEXT BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AND JAKARTA.
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